<u>UNITED STATES EMBASSY BRUSSELS. BELGIUM</u> Security Message for U.S. Citizens:

Upcoming farmers protests in Brussels

September 6 and September 7, 2015

The U.S. Embassy Brussels informs all U.S. citizens that the following protest marches are expected in Brussels. Police will maintain order.

On September 6, 2015 from 13:00 to 17:00 hours the Farmer Unions supported with a few hundred tractors will ride/march in and around the European Quarter, along the following itinerary: Schuman Square/Parc du Cinquantenaire, Rue Belliard, Rue d'Arlon, Place du Luxembourg (see first map), Rue de Trièves, Rue Belliard and Schuman Square/Parc du Cinquantenaire (see first map). Approximately 1000 people are expected to participate. Local police will be present.

On September 7, 2015 from 10:00 to 15:00 hours the "European Milkboard" Unions will demonstrate at the European Quarter, Schuman Square and Parc du Cinquantenaire (see first map). Approximately 1500 people are expected to participate. Local police will be present.

On September 7, 2015 from 10:00 to 15:00 hours the "AGRO" Unions will hold a protest march along the following itinerary: North Station, Small Ring via Place Madou (passing the US Embassy from North to South), Rue Belliard to Parc du Cinquantenaire (RED on second map). Approximately 3000 people are expected to participate. Local police will be present.

Demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Belgium enroll in the Department of State's <u>Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)</u>. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the <u>State Department's website</u> where you can find current Travel Warnings, (including the Travel Warning for Belgium if appropriate), Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution, Read the <u>Country Specific Information for Belgium</u>. For additional information, refer to <u>Traveler's Checklist</u>.

Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free from within the United

States and Canada, or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

Follow us on **Twitter** and **Facebook**.

The U.S. Embassy in Brussels is located at Blvd du Regent 27, 1000 Brussels and is open Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (except U.S. federal and Belgian holidays). If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance, the emergency number for the U.S, Embassy is: 02-811-4000.



